

The Grapevine

Volume I

The Official Newsletter of El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument

Sept. 2012

INTRODUCTION

Los Angeles is constantly changing, and the City's birthplace is at the epicenter of new developments taking place. We are encouraged by the positive feeling that our merchants, non-profit partners and other interested parties have expressed in recent meetings. This newsletter is intended to share stories, recent improvements, challenges, and other important news with our friends within the heart of the City.

MAIN STREET RESURFACED!

Mil gracias to Mayor Villaraigosa, Councilman José Huizar, and the Bureau of Street Services for resurfacing Main Street from Arcadia Street to Cesar Chavez Avenue. The new surface provides a smooth ride into El Pueblo and coincides nicely with many of the improvements made in and around the neighborhood.

COMMERCIAL PARKING

At the request of numerous merchants, the Department is working with Council District 14 and the Department of Transportation on expanding commercial parking. The Department understands the importance of this issue. We will keep you updated.



Ciclavia (April 15, 2012)

BICYCLING IN LOS ANGELES

As many of you know, bicycling in Los Angeles has developed a strong following due to our good weather, wide and numerous roadways, health consciousness, and our many scenic locations. Last year, El Pueblo was included as one of the key bicycle hubs within the very popular Ciclavia route, bringing thousands of new and longtime visitors back to the City's birthplace.

Since the last Ciclavia event, our friends at the Department of Transportation have recently re-striped Los Angeles and Main Streets with new bicycle lanes to improve connections with existing routes to the Civic Center and beyond. This will allow visitors coming from Union Station light rail lines to connect with existing bike lanes to explore the Grand Central Market on Broadway, the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) on Grand Avenue, and the Central Library on Fifth and Flower Street. Bicycling around Los Angeles is a great way to see our beautiful city and we will work hard to enhance the visitor experience from our home base, El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument. At the request of several merchants, your El Pueblo team also asked our colleagues at the Department of Transportation to install new bike racks for greater convenience for our visitors and workers.

MERCHANT
OFFICE HOURS

To increase the General Manager's availability to our merchant partners, we have created office hours every Wednesday from 3pm to 5pm. Please call (213) 485-6855 or email Linda Duran at linda.duran@lacity.org to make an appointment or for information.



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(*América Tropical*, 1932)

AMÉRICA TROPICAL
INTERPRETIVE CENTER

The official grand opening for the América Tropical Interpretive Center (ATIC) is October 9, 2012. The date is important as it represents the 80th anniversary of the first unveiling of "El Maestro" David Alfaro Siqueiros' mural *América Tropical*. El Pueblo has partnered with the Getty Conservation Institute to publicly display this important mural to our residents and visitors. The permanent exhibit will encompass two galleries within the historic Sepulveda House that will focus on the work of Siqueiros, his tumultuous visit and impact on Los Angeles, the social and economic environment of the time (1932), his influence on modern day murals, and on-going conservation activities.



The mural protective shelter being lifted onto columns above the Italian Hall.

We will keep you informed on a number of public events that will be occurring in and around El Pueblo in the coming months to highlight the resurgence of *América Tropical* and El Maestro – David Alfaro Siqueiros.